

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 5, 2006. Claims 1 to 6, 8 to 11, 13 to 23, and 25 to 27 are in the application, of which Claim 1 is the sole remaining independent claim. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Turning first to a formal matter, the Examiner is requested to indicate his approval of the formal drawing for Figure 13, submitted with a Letter dated February 28, 2006.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 12. Based on that indication, the substance of Claim 12 (and intervening Claim 7) has been incorporated into independent Claim 1, and Claims 24 and 28 to 32 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In making this change, some language has been omitted from intervening Claim 7, but it is not thought that this omission would affect the allowability of now-cancelled Claim 12. Accordingly, it is believed that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 to 11, 13 to 18 and 22 to 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,490,052 (Yanagidaira) in view of GB 2,347,766 (Alexander), Claims 19 to 21 and 25 to 27 were rejected under § 103 over Yanagidaira in view of U.S. Patent 6,253,238 (Lauder), and Claims 28 to 32 were rejected under § 102(e) over Alexander. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejections, in an effort to

obtain an earlier allowance of the subject application and to expedite issuance.

Accordingly, this should be viewed as a traversal of the rejection. It is Applicant's intention to file a continuation application directed to the rejected claims.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

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